THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Promotion of computer software industry in Orissa

2486. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government to promote computer software industry in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that adequate steps have not been taken to promoted computer software industry in Orissa;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor.

(d) whether there is a vast scope to promote computer software industry in that State; and

(e) if so, the possibilities explored in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Government of India, Department of Electronics has set up Software Technology Park at Bhubaneshwar to promote software industry in the State of Orissa. In addition, the Department of Electronics has supported implementation of computer courses viz. Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application (PGDCA), Master of Computer Application (MCA), B.Tech. and ITI level in various Universities/Educational Institutes in the State for development of manpower in software area.

Production of electronic goods

2487. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that production in the electronic industry during the Eighth Five Year Plan has been below the targets;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have any plan for increasing the production of electronic goods; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the terminal year 1996-97 of VIII Five Year Plan, the total electronics production was Rs. 26,640 crores as against Eighth Plan target of Rs. 36,000 crores. This represented 74 per cent of targets and the electronic industry achieved cumulative growth of 20 per cent in production. During VIII Plan there has been a mixed performance in different sectors with Consumer Electronic and Communication and Broadcasting Equipment growing more rapidly than other hardware Sector. The Software sector exceeded what was targetted.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Working Group on Electronic Industry set up for IX Plan by the Planning Commission has set a goal of electronics production of Rs. 138,350 crores for the terminal year of the IX Plan (2001-02) representing a growth rate of about 37 per cent. In order to achieve the said production